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COMICS

Fun and  
Fashion!

# Barbie™



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55

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COOL  
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Albrechtini

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American  
Legend  
Comes  
to  
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# Barbie™

THIS ISSUE



## VENICE

*Bella Barbie and her fantastico feline*  
finish first at the fabulous Film Festival!

LISA TRUSIANI  
ANGELO DECESARE  
Writers

DARF RAUSCH  
Penciler

ROMEO TANGHAL  
Inker

JANICE CHIANG  
Letterer

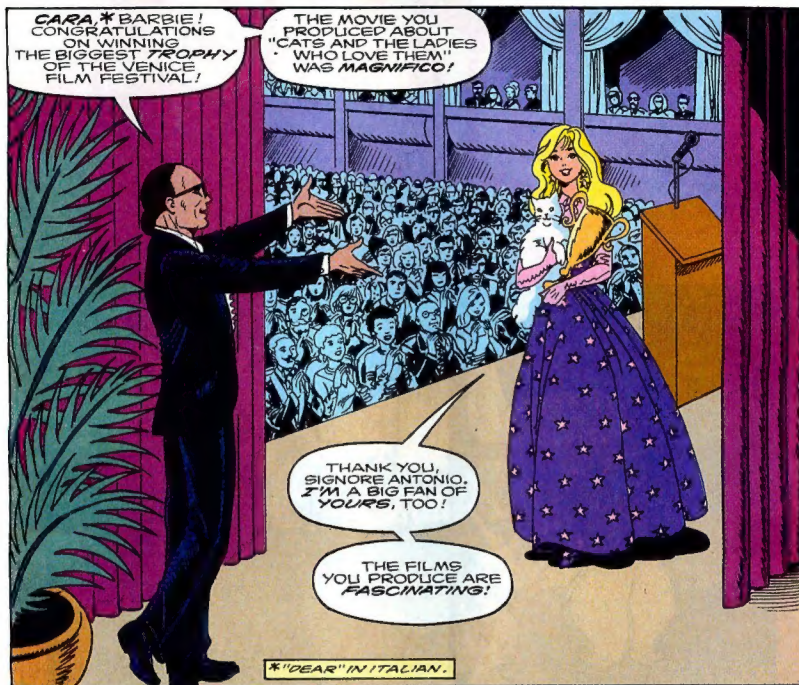
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HILLY MESNIK  
Editor

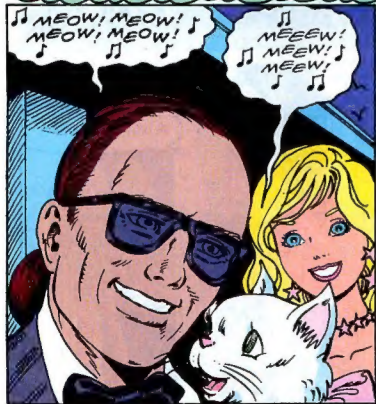
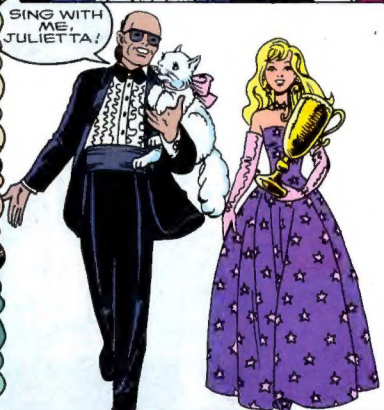
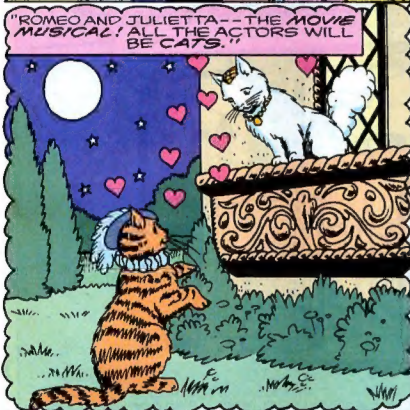
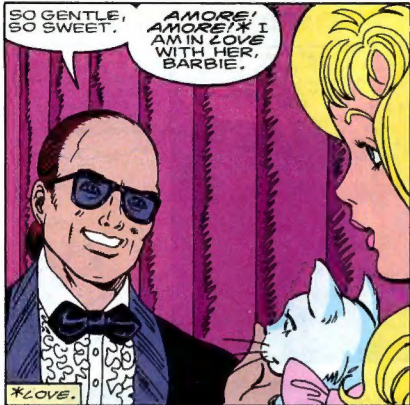
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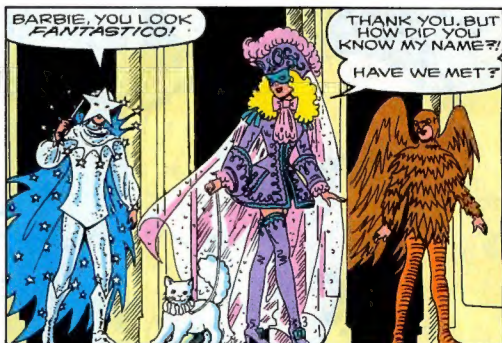
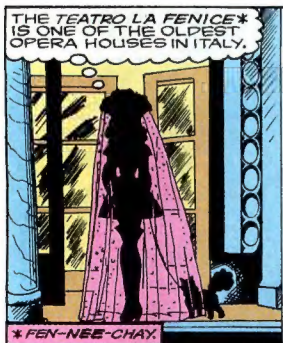
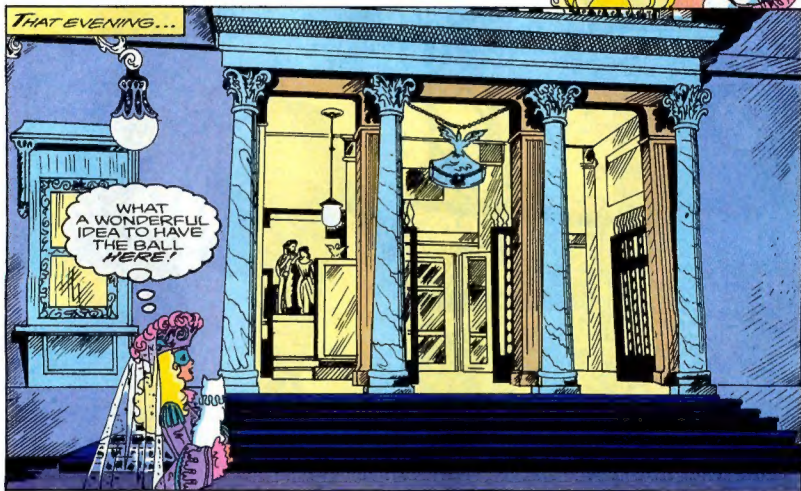
# Barbie

in **Venice** Part I: Island Adventure

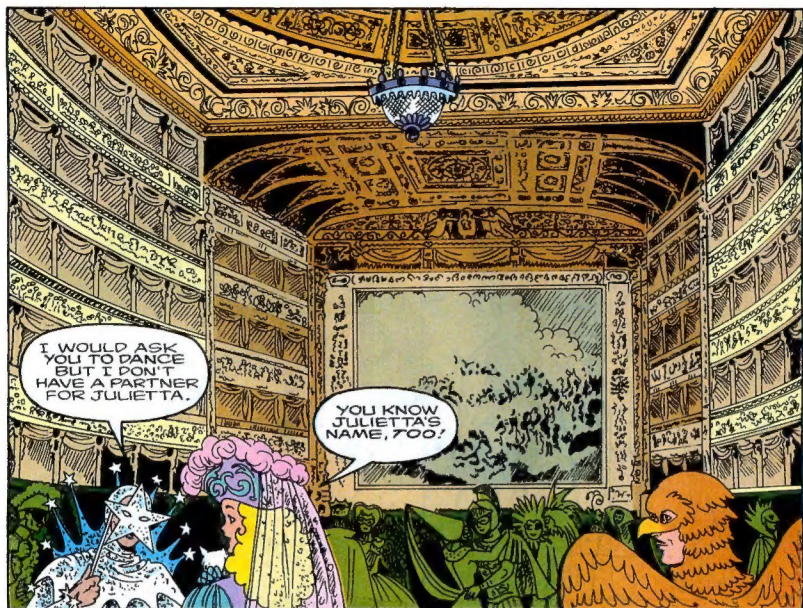




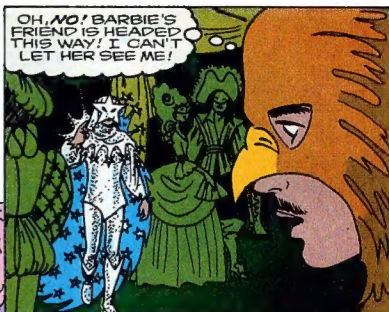
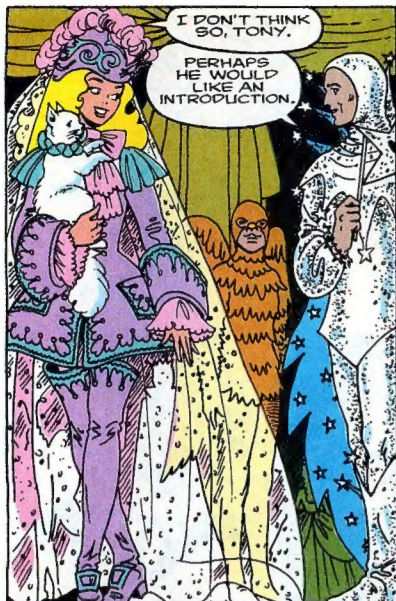




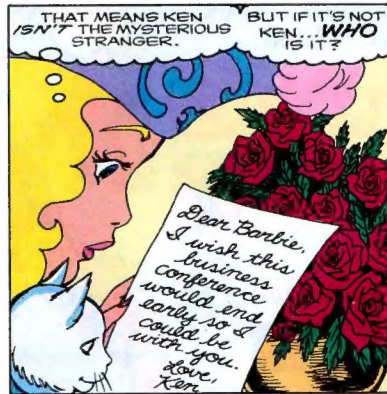
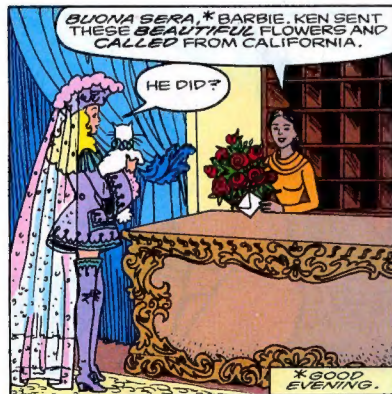


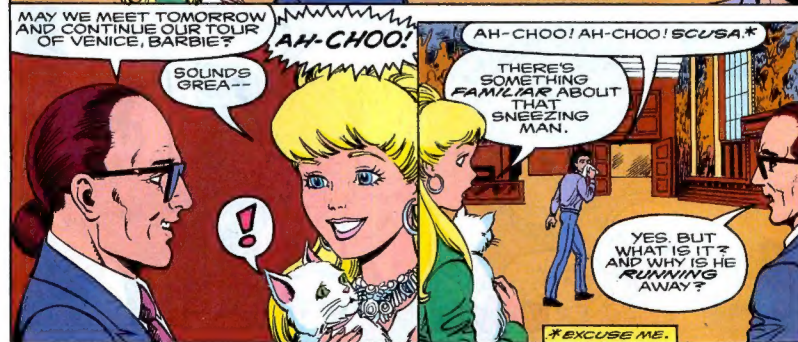
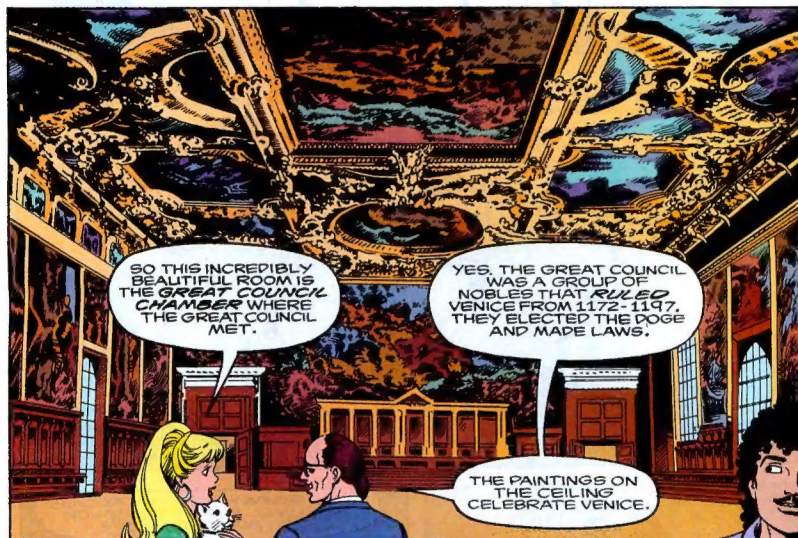
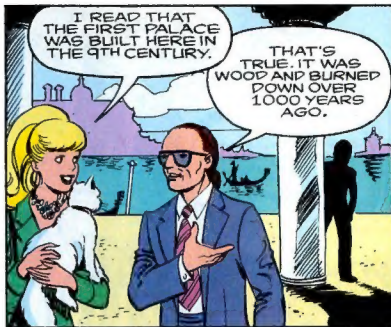
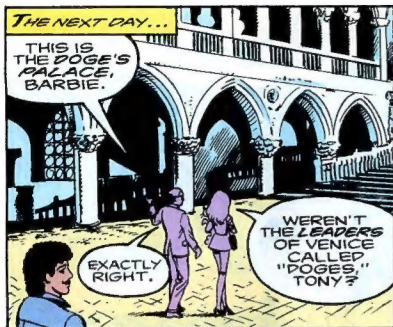




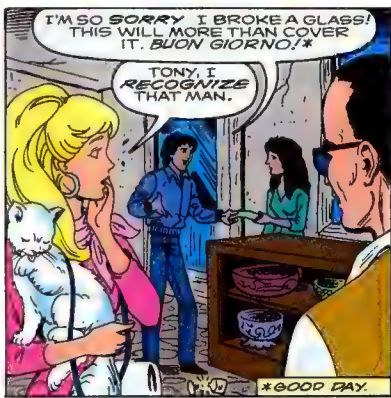
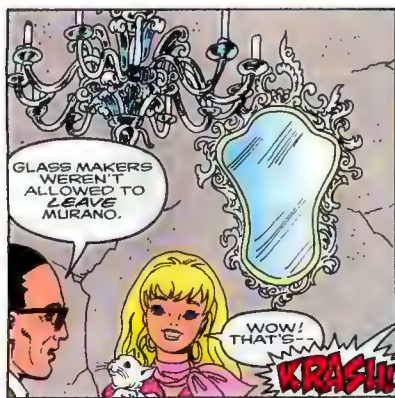
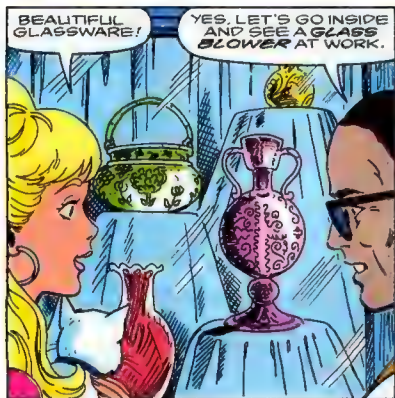
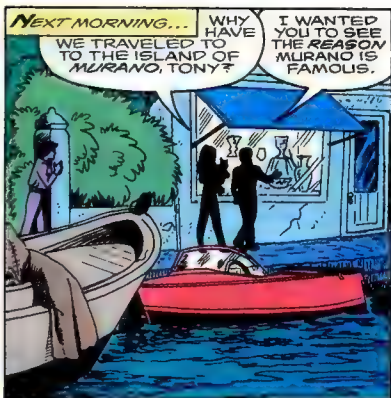
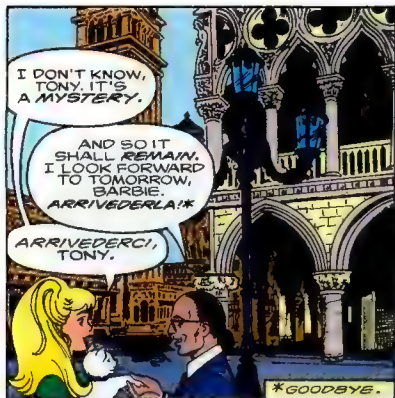












HE'S THE MAN FROM  
THE POPE'S PALACE  
THE ONE WHO *SNEEZED*  
AND *RAN AWAY*.

IT MUST JUST BE A  
*COINCIDENCE*, BUT I  
WONDER... WHY IS HE  
RUNNING AWAY  
AGAIN?

THE MYSTERY  
CONTINUES.

SHALL WE  
CONTINUE  
THE TOUR  
TOMORROW?

YES! SEE YOU  
TOMORROW.

THE FOLLOWING DAY...



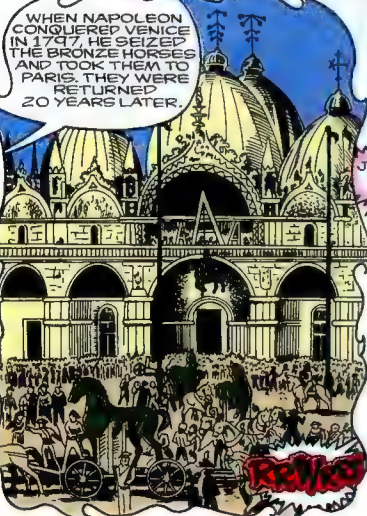
HERE WE  
ARE AT THE  
CATHEDRAL  
OF ST. MARK.

I'VE BEEN  
WANTING  
TO SEE  
THE FAMOUS  
HORSES  
ABOVE THE  
DOORWAY.

HERE  
THEY ARE,  
BARBIE.

THE VENETIANS SEIZED  
THEM FROM  
CONSTANTINOPLE IN 1204.

WHEN NAPOLEON  
CONQUERED VENICE  
IN 1797, HE SEIZED  
THE BRONZE HORSES  
AND TOOK THEM TO  
PARIS. THEY WERE  
RETURNED  
20 YEARS LATER.

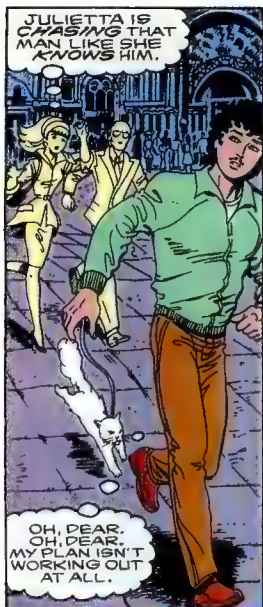


JULIETTA  
COME  
BACK!

WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING,  
JULIETTA?

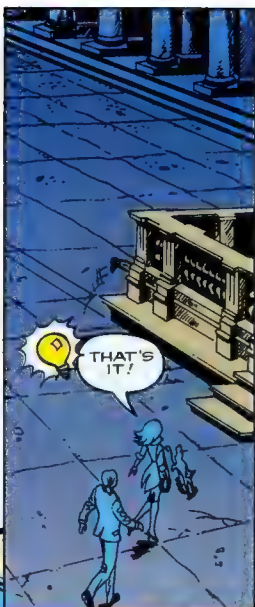






JULIETTA IS CHASING THAT MAN LIKE SHE KNOWS HIM.

OH, DEAR. OH, DEAR. MY PLAN ISN'T WORKING OUT AT ALL.



THAT'S IT!



JULIETTA KNOWS HIM FROM MURANO AND THE DOGE'S PALACE, AND I RECOGNIZE HIM, TOO, NOW...

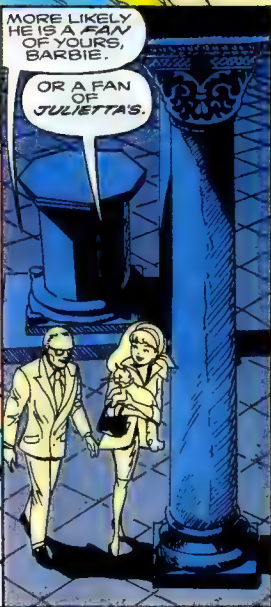
... FROM THE BALL!

I BELIEVE YOU HAVE FOUND THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER!



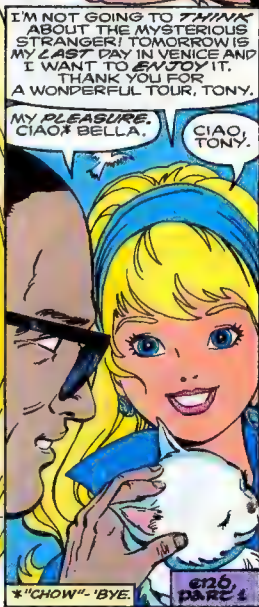
I HOPE HE'S NOT A CATNAPPER!

NO, I DO NOT THINK HE IS THAT.



MORE LIKELY HE IS A FAN OF YOURS, BARBIE.

OR A FAN OF JULIETTA'S.



I'M NOT GOING TO THINK ABOUT THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER! TOMORROW IS MY LAST DAY IN VENICE AND I WANT TO ENJOY IT. THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL TOUR, TONY.

MY PLEASURE. CIAO, BELLA.

CIAO, TONY.

\*"CHOW"-BYE

6726, PART 1

# Barbie

## Venice Part II: The Mysterious City

LOOK, JULIETTA,  
THERE'S A **GONDOLIER\***  
OUTSIDE OUR HOTEL!  
WHAT BETTER WAY TO  
SPEND OUR LAST DAY  
IN VENICE THAN TO GO  
ON A RELAXING  
GONDOLA RIDE!

I'LL HURRY  
AND GET  
DRESSED!

MEOW!

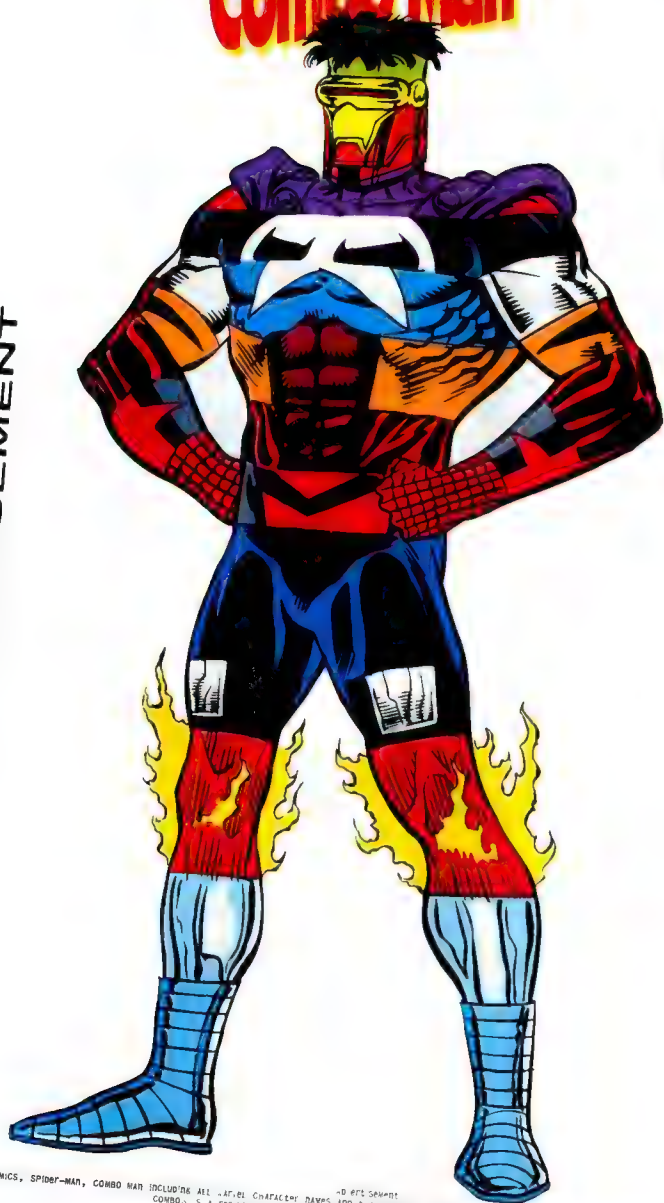
\*BOATMAN.



# Combo Man™

# Dis A





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so you can  
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3. An offic  
get c  
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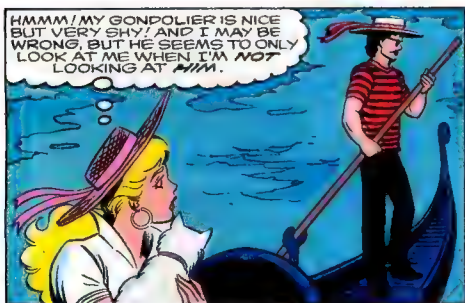
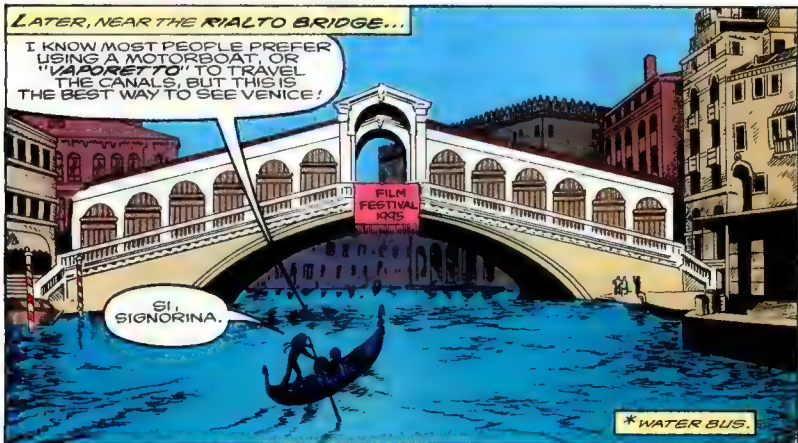
in this Leather , this HANDSOME  or this Attractive  you CAN singlehandedly take COMBO MAN™ APART. Here's what will be of you: 1. A GOOD WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF the  universe CORRECTLY identify the 14 FAMOUS MARVEL COMICS™ CHARACTERS that COMBO MAN. 2. A **Combos**® SNACKS WRAPPER, Preferably emptied first. SPECIAL COMBO MAN SWEEPSTAKES RULES and entry certificate. YOU CAN find AT A COMBOS® SNACKS DISPLAY near you OR BY following the instructions given in the fine squinty print below.

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I JUST LOVE TO GAZE AT THE REFLECTION OF VENICE IN THE WATER!

NOW TO SEE IF HE'S REALLY SNEAKING GLANCES AT ME.



HE IS! HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT I CAN SEE HIS REFLECTION, TOO! HE LOOKS LIKE THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER, WEARING A FAKE MOUSTACHE!



I'LL TEST HIM!

WOULD YOU MIND STOPPING THE BOAT SO THAT I CAN TAKE YOUR PICTURE?

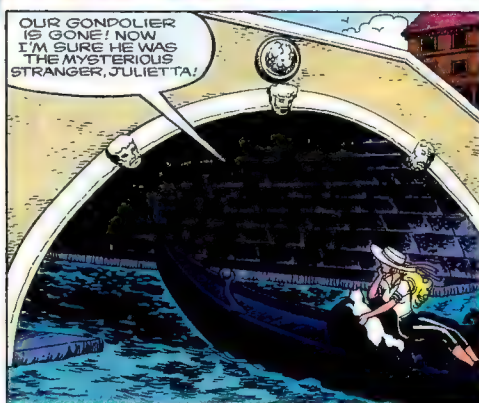


UH... NOT AT ALL, SIGNORINA! I WILL STOP WHEN WE COME OUT OF THIS TUNNEL!



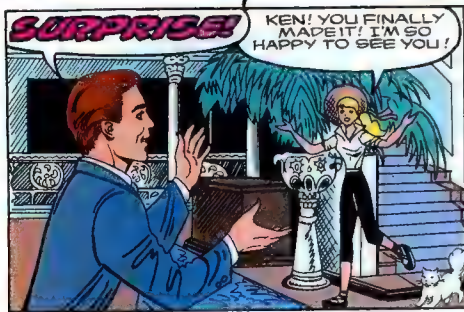
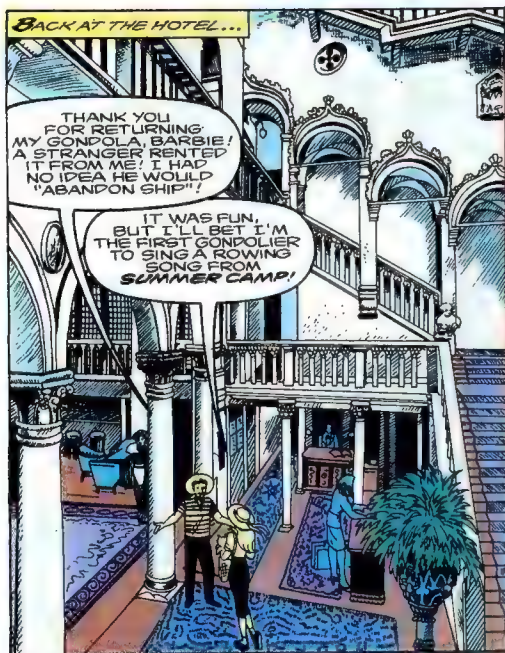
I KNOW IT'S DARK, BUT DON'T COMPLAIN, JULIETTA! YOU CAN SEE MUCH BETTER IN THE DARK THAN I CAN!

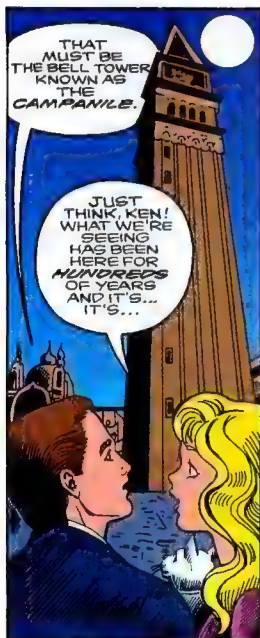
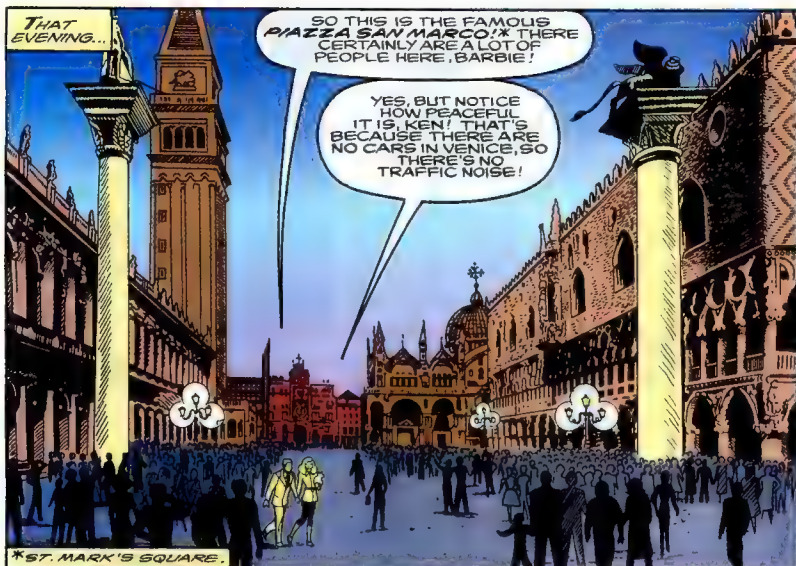
MEOW!



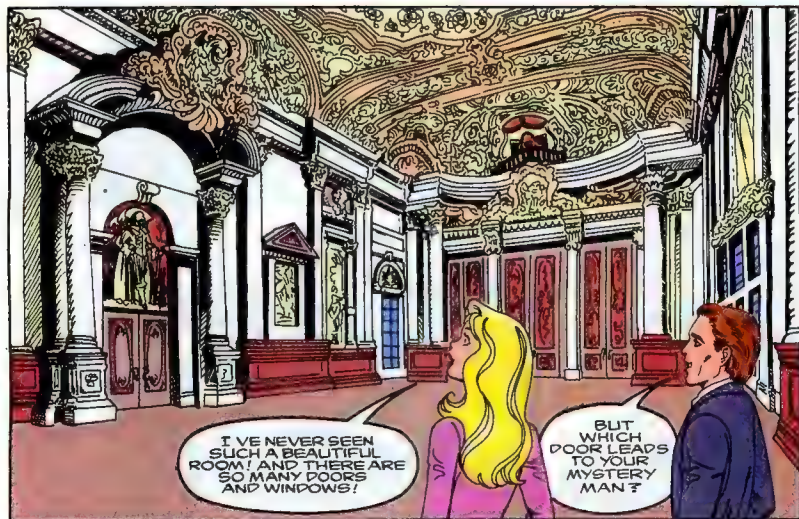
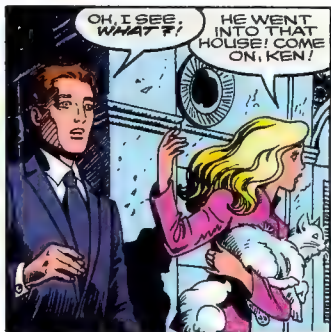
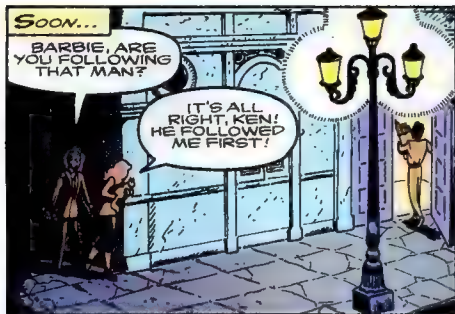
OUR GONDOLIER IS GONE! NOW I'M SURE HE WAS THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER, JULIETTA!

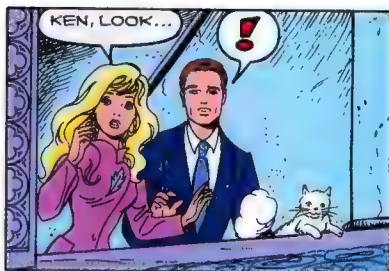
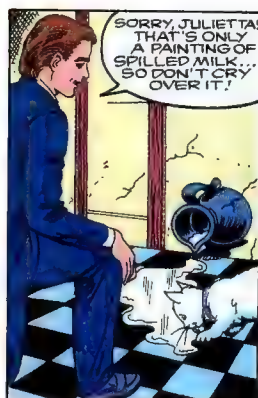
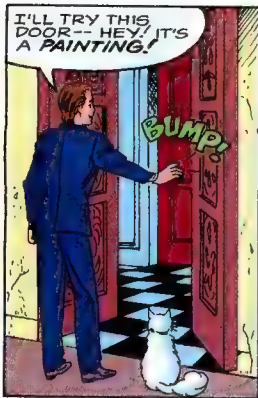














MARVEL  
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# SPIDER-MAN



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# SWING INTO MCDONALD'S THIS MAY!

...and get one of these  
marvelous Spider-Man figures  
or vehicles when you purchase  
a Happy Meal at a participating  
McDonald's near you!







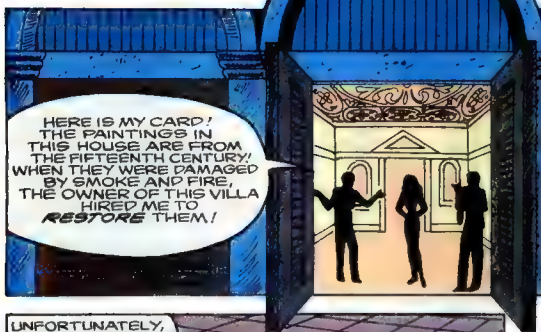
HERE I AM! THAT'S A SELF-PORTRAIT!



IT'S WONDERFUL... BUT WHY HAVE YOU BEEN FOLLOWING ME AROUND VENICE ALL WEEK?



FORGIVE ME FOR DISTURBING YOU, DEAR BARBIE! MY NAME IS GIUSEPPE DI MURO! AS YOU CAN SEE I AM A PAINTER!



HERE IS MY CARD! THE PAINTINGS IN THIS HOUSE ARE FROM THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY! WHEN THEY WERE DAMAGED BY SMOKE AND FIRE, THE OWNER OF THIS VILLA HIRED ME TO RESTORE THEM!



UNFORTUNATELY, ONE PAINTING OF A WOMAN WAS DAMAGED SO BADLY THAT I HAD TO PAINT AN ENTIRELY NEW FACE ON IT!

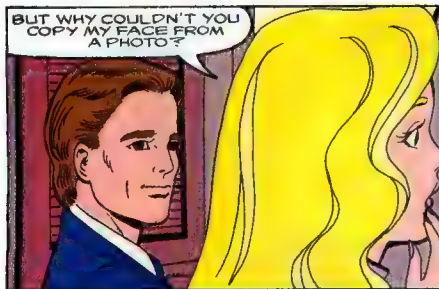


THE OWNER ASKED ME TO PAINT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN I'D EVER SEEN! THAT IS YOU, CARINA! \*



THANK YOU, GIUSEPPE!

\*DEAR ONE.



BUT WHY COULDN'T YOU COPY MY FACE FROM A PHOTO?



NEVER! GIUSEPPE DI MURO IS A TRUE ARTIST! I ONLY PAINT FROM LIFE!

I DIDN'T WANT TO INTERRUPT YOUR VACATION BY ASKING YOU TO SIT FOR AN UNKNOWN ARTIST. SO I TRIED TO STUDY YOUR FACE...

...WITHOUT YOU SEEING ME! I'M SORRY FOR ANY TROUBLE I HAVE CAUSED YOU! HOW CAN I MAKE IT UP TO YOU?

WELL, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOUR PAINTING OF ME, GIUSEPPE!



IT'S RIGHT BEHIND THESE DOORS! PRESENTING...



...BARBIE! A WOMAN FOR ANY CENTURY!

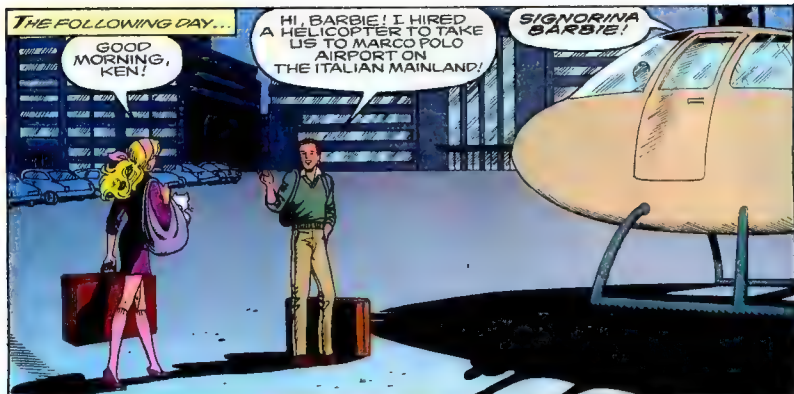
YOU EVEN INCLUDED JULIETTA! IT'S MAGNIFICENT!



...OR AS THE VENETIANS WOULD SAY IT'S MAGNIFICO!

MEOW!





# LETTERS TO



# Barbie™

**HILDY MESNIK**  
Editor

**LISA ZAMPELLA**  
Assistant Editor

**SARRA MOSSOFF**  
Correspondence Editor

**Write to: BARBIE Comics, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016**

Hey, kids — Since we print your name, age, city and state, please include them on your letters.

Dear BARBIE,

My name is Sara. I am 5 years old. Thank you so much for making BARBIE comics. My older sister reads them to me all the time.

You are my favorite person and I like you a lot. I have a lot of your dolls and I play with them all the time. My favorite one is when you have sparkles in your hair. You have beautiful hair. Where do you get your hair done?

I like these comics alot!

Sara Haynes, age 5  
Atlanta, GA

We're so glad you enjoy BARBIE comics, Sara! Our terrific artists deserve all the credit for Barbie's beautiful hairstyles!

Dear BARBIE,

Hi! My name is Nicole. I love your comics. Every time I get one, I read it right away! I have a lot of your comics. I read them a lot.

Nicole Edwards, age 10  
Century, FL

Glad you enjoy reading our comics, Nicole! Thanks for writing!

Dear BARBIE,

I got your comic for one year. I was looking at old issues from 1992, and realized how much I enjoyed them. How can I re-subscribe?

My name is Sarah. I'm 11½ years old and going into the seventh grade.

Sarah Tracy, age 11½  
Poughkeepsie, NY

Good question, Sarah! Subscribing is easy! To receive every issue of BARBIE through the mail right at home each month, simply fill out the form in this very issue! And you can be sure you'll never miss an issue!

Remember — check with a parent or adult first!

Dear BARBIE,

I love reading your comics. When I was little I used to be just like you, but from your comic I learned that being yourself is what's most important. You can't be anyone else, no matter how hard you try.

I have a whole collection of your comics. Well, I was nice writing to you. I hope you enjoyed this letter as much as I enjoy your comics!

Natalie Olson  
Kenr, WA

We couldn't have said it better, Natalie! Being yourself is the most important thing! Thanks so much for writing! We'd like to introduce you to our next letter writer. . .

Dear BARBIE,

I have a lot of Barbie dolls, and I like them very much. I like you very much. I wish I could be like you. I wish I could dress like you, and I wish I could be a model like you.

Meldon Jones, age 7  
Newark, NJ

Thanks, Meldon, but we wish you could be *you*! Barbie is everyone's favorite doll, and she's special to all of us. But you're you, and that's special! There's no one else just like you in the world — we are all unique and different!

There are certain things that make Barbie who she is, and there are things that make you who you are! Barbie has her own style. While it's always a good idea to notice styles and traits that you admire, it's important to go beyond them and develop your own. By doing that, you'll become just who you want to be!

Dear BARBIE,

My name is Addie and I'm 16 years old. I love to collect Barbie dolls and BARBIE comics. Many years ago when I was little, my grandfather built me a dollhouse big enough for Barbie. Even to this day, the dollhouse is still in my room. It's packed with furniture, loaded with miniatures, and of course, has several Barbie dolls living in it!

I think BARBIE comics present a wonderful role model for little girls. Barbie always has a good "moral to the story" and she is nice to everyone.

Keep up the great work! And please write more stories about Skipper and Staci! Thanks so much!

Addie Lueth, age 16  
St. Simons Is., GA

Wow! You're very lucky, Addie, to have such a wonderful dollhouse built by your grandfather! It sounds very special!

Thanks for the compliments! We try to present a positive image with BARBIE comics — it's nice to hear you think we're doing a good job!

Dear BARBIE,

I really enjoyed BARBIE FASHION #44. It was one of the best BARBIE comics I've ever read. I enjoy reading BARBIE comics with

grandpa Sam and Grandma Edna, and I hope you'll feature them again in the future.

My dad owns a comic book store that sells BARBIE comics. I've read every issue since #1, and every month I can't wait to read another adventure.

Cindy Field, age 10  
Concord, CA

Must be great to have a dad who owns a comic book store, Cindy! Especially since you're such a big BARBIE comics fan!

Be sure to read BARBIE FASHION #52 for more stories about grandma Edna and grandpa Sam!

Dear BARBIE,

I like BARBIE a lot. I would like to work in the offices where you make BARBIE when I grow up.

Megan Rountree, age 10  
Lafayette, LA

Sounds like a good plan, Megan! Most of us who work here at Marvel have always enjoyed comic books, so we enjoy our work. It's great when it's possible to combine something you enjoy with how you make a living!

Dear BARBIE,

I am Adeline from Malaysia. I only have a few BARBIE comic books, but I plan to collect more.

I was wondering if you could help me. You see, I am looking for penpals from other countries. I would like you to print my name and address. Thanks!

Adeline Tan, age 14  
Jalan TK 1/9  
Taman Kinrara  
58200 Kuala Lumpur  
Malaysia

We're happy to print your address, Adeline, and we hope you can answer all the letters we think you'll be getting!

Thanks for writing to us from so far away! Barbie really does have fans all over the world! If there are any BARBIE readers who would like to know more about Malaysia, where Adeline lives, we suggest looking in an atlas or encyclopedia. Your school or public library can help you! Good luck!

Dear BARBIE,

I think the Barbie comics are very nice, and that Barbie is very pretty. I love her dresses and her shoes. The comics are pretty, too.



When I see them, I always want to buy them. I think today is a very good day to buy a comic.

I love Barbie. I want to grow up and be like Barbie.

Susana Rengifo, age 4  
El Paso, TX

Thanks for writing to us, Susana! We think every day is a good day to read **BARBIE and BARBIE FASHION!**

Dear BARBIE,

I live in a store by Lake Erie called West General Store. In our store we sell comics and every time a new **BARBIE** comes in, I read it. My mom says that because I read so much, I do well in school. This year I got straight A's through the whole year!

Shirley West, age 9  
Brocton, NY

We're thrilled to hear about your straight A's, Shirley! We're so glad that **BARBIE** comics encourage you to read! Next time you write, tell us what your favorite books are!

Dear BARBIE,

Hil I'm Kacie Cummings. I am 10 years old and I have over 100 **BARBIE** and **BARBIE FASHION** comic books. My nanny buys them for me. She has been buying them for me since I was 7 or 8 years old.

Kacie Cummings, age 10  
Smyrna, TN

Wow! You've been a **BARBIE** and **BARBIE FASHION** reader for a long time, Kacie! Thanks for being such a true blue fan!

Dear BARBIE,

Hil My name is Christine, and I'm 11 years old. I read my first **BARBIE** comic and it was good!

I love to play Barbies. I have a cousin, Jackie, who is 16 years old. She still plays with Barbies! Anyway, there are some kids in my school who are so mean! They make fun of me for liking Barbies. What should I do?

Christine Mileu, age 11  
Laurel, MD

We hear about this problem often, Christine! Unfortunately, there are no easy answers. We know that part of what makes Barbie so special is her universal appeal; no matter how young or old you may be, you can still enjoy Barbie!

There must be other people in your school who like playing with Barbie. By being friends with others who love Barbie, it will be easier to ignore comments of those who don't! Also, you may want to try reminding kids who make fun of Barbie just how much a part of our culture she is. After all, there are several serious books about Barbie that are now available and she is a very valuable collectible! Basically, Barbie is everyone's favorite doll!

Dear BARBIE,

I love your comic books. They are so fun to read. My grandma sends them to me.

Jaclyn Nakashima, age 5  
Chicago, IL

Thanks for writing to us, Jaclyn! And be sure to thank your grandma, too!

Dear BARBIE,

I have three Barbie dolls, and a few of her friends. I have only just begun my Barbie collection. I started a few years ago.

Yesterday I bought my very first **BARBIE** comic book. I'm sure I'll enjoy collecting comics as much as I enjoy collecting Barbies.

Renee Mishaal Dickinson, age 5  
Hot Springs, AZ

We know you'll enjoy reading and collecting **BARBIE** comics, Renee! And you can visit with other **BARBIE** fans and collectors right here on this page every month!

Dear BARBIE,

Hil My name is Corrina Chalmers and I come from Australia, off cattle station, three hours northeast of Alice Springs. I have two of your comics and they are cool.

I like reading comics, and I have to say that yours is one of the best ones I have read. My favorite bit in the comic is Barbie's fashion designs.

Corrina Chalmers  
Australia

Thanks for all the compliments, Corrina! It's nice to know that **BARBIE** comics has fans from all over—even the other side of the world! We hope you enjoy this month's fashion feature, which you'll find on the following page!

If any **BARBIE** readers want to know more about Australia, where Corrina comes from, check out an atlas or encyclopedia. Australia is really on the other side of the globe from our continent, North America. If you need some help, ask a parent or adult—or check with your local or school librarian!

Dear BARBIE,

Hil How are you? I just got done reading one of your comic books. It was great!

I have two questions. My first question is: How many letters do you get in the mail? This is my most important question: When you send in a fashion design, do you have to design the hair and shoes, too?

Becky Lynn Carter, age 8 1/2  
Bellevue, NE

Good questions, Becky! We receive hundreds of letters every month from our readers and fans. Yep! Hundreds! We do read each and every one, and we print the few we have room for right here every month. Unfortunately, we can't respond personally to every person who writes to us—there just isn't enough time! But we hope all of our readers will continue to send us mail. We love reading your letters and looking at your fashions!

As for hair and shoes, Becky, if you don't want to design them, it's okay with us! We'd love to see the unique, original fashion designs you create for Barbie. Accessories are optional!

Dear BARBIE,

Hil My name is Sarah. I have a lot of **BARBIE** comics. I am 10 years old. I got my first **BARBIE** comic when I was six years old, for my birthday. I love reading them, and my twin sister Amanda does, too. I really liked the special double-sized 50th issue.

I was wondering if you could have a story about twins in an issue of **BARBIE**. I love reading about twins.

Sarah Smith, age 10  
Madison, IL

How lucky you are to have a twin, Sarah! We bet that you and Amanda have a very special relationship. And to top it off—you both love reading **BARBIE**!

Dear BARBIE,

My name is Tomi and I am 9 years old. I am your number one fan, Barbie!

I have a problem. I had a friend who I've known since kindergarten. I am now in the fourth grade. My friend moved, and I don't have anyone to play with at recess. Other people in my class make fun of me because I miss my friend. What can I do?

Tomi Ambrose, age 9  
Berea, KY

It's always hard when a good friend moves away, Tomi, whether you're 9 or 99! We understand that you miss her—anyone losing a friend like that would!

Your challenge is to now begin forming new friendships. It's up to you to reach out to the people around you. Try to find people in your class who share an interest of yours. New friendships often begin because both people enjoy something—riding bikes, playing Barbies, drawing and painting, or just about anything! Ask someone to join you for your favorite activity, and watch the friendship begin! We think you'll find that everyone loves to make a new friend!

Ignore the people who make fun of you. If they lost a friend, they'd feel just like you. You won't forget your friend who moved away, but you can remember her and find new friends.

Good luck!



#### BARBIE'S BIRTHDAY CORNER

It's the marvelous month of May, and many **BARBIE** readers are celebrating birthdays!

- 5/2 Julie Renee Montgomery, 10,  
Brook Park, OH  
5/3 Renee D. Burns, 9, Ridgefield, NJ  
5/8 Erika Sims, 15, Jamaica, NY  
5/8 Helen M. Huggins, 49, Canton, OH  
5/13 LeeAnne Jarick, 9, White Haven, PA  
5/13 Amanda Alvarado, 7,  
Chesapeake, VA  
5/14 Karen Hensz, 11, Harrington, TX  
5/16 Alyssa Lowry, 8, Union, CT  
5/17 Lori Bagwell, 37, Birmingham, AL  
5/18 Katrina Pelosi, 10,  
Washingtonville, NY  
5/23 Michelle Christensen, 4, Coal City, IL  
5/25 Jennifer Jackson, 5, Renton, WA  
5/25 Ali Kekevan, 10, Marlton, NJ  
5/26 JaMeka Tyler, 12, Tacoma, WA  
5/28 Stephanie Marden, 8, Salem, NH  
5/31 Amanda Pimentel, 5,  
East Providence, RI

And a very happy birthday on May 9, to bundle-of-energy **BARBIE** writer, Barbara Slate, and on May 15 to Marvel Comics' very own legal lady, Pam Bradford! Happy birthday to these and all the **BARBIE** readers celebrating birthdays this month!

If you'd like to see your special day listed here, send your name, age, address and date of birth to the address at the top of this page. Please be sure to send it to us at least six months ahead of time!

A very special thanks to Joe Di Muro!

# Barbie™

## IN BELLA BARBIE!

With the romance of the countryside and the warmth of Italian hospitality, Barbie looks bellissima as she sails the Venetian canals in a gondola, wearing these divine designs sent to us by you, the BARBIE readers! Although we only have room here to print a few of the hundreds of fantastic fashions we receive each month, we love them all and hope you enjoy them as much as we do! If you have a fashion for Barbie, for any occasion, be sure to send it to us here at BARBIE, c/o Marvel Comics, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. Please be sure to include your name, age and full address!



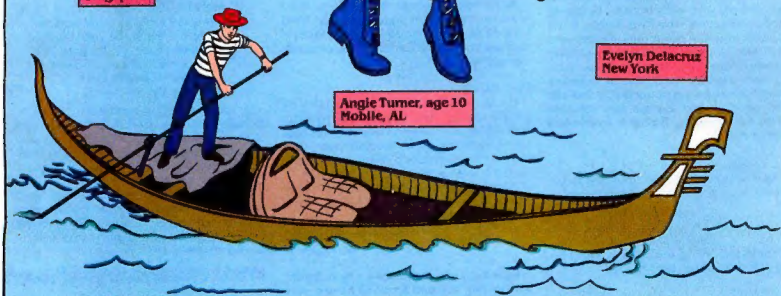
Kelly Yeo  
Singapore



Angie Turner, age 10  
Mobile, AL



Evelyn Delacruz  
New York





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#2: Karate



# HOW TO BREAK IT



#3: Steamroller



#4: You

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GIMME A BREAK • GIMME A BREAK • BREAK ME OFF A PIECE OF THAT KIT KAT BAR.

GIMME A BREAK • GIMME A BREAK • BREAK ME OFF A PIECE OF THAT KIT KAT BAR.